

(f) to what extent India has examined this report and has allowed exporters for setting up bases in EU ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) to (f) Yes, Sir. Government is aware of the UNCTAD's publication "Sharing Asia's Dynamism" on Asia's direct investment in the EU. European Union nations are economically important to India as India's largest trading partner. GOI keeps a watch on various tariff and non tariff barriers to India's exports to various destinations including Europe and necessary bilateral and multilateral consultations are made as and when necessary. As regards permitting overseas investments by export oriented units or other firms, especially in joint ventures and marketing in Europe, GOI's policies in this regard have been made liberal and Indian business and industry are encouraged to avail these facilities for increasing presence in those markets.

Agreement with SAIL

6697. SHRI ANNASAHIB M.K. PATIL :
SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE :

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Coal India Ltd. and Steel Authority of India have finalised a deal for supply of coking coal on long term basis;

(b) if so, the details of the deal finalised and implications thereof;

(c) the estimated requirement of coking coal by Steel sector at present and projection of demand for the next five years; and

(d) the details of coking coal production by CIL during 1996-97 for augmenting production during 1997-98 with order of investment and extent of imports ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) and (b) Agreement for supply of coking coal to Steel Authority of India Limited of long term basis is presently under negotiation between Coal India Limited (CIL) & Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL).

(c) Planning Commission has assessed demand of raw coking coal for the steel sector including that for coke ovens for the year 1997-98 as 41.40 million tonnes. For the balance four years of the Ninth Five Year Plan, the projected demand of coking coal is in the process of being firmed up by the Planning Commission. However

provisional figures as indicated by the Working Group on Coal & Lignite for the Ninth Five Year Plan are as under :-

(million tonnes)			
1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02
43.26	43.87	43.74	49.57

(d) The production of coking coal of metallurgical grade from CIL sources during 1996-97 was 18.57 million tonnes.

Steps taken/proposed to be taken by Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) & Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) which are the main producers of coking coal to augment indigenous availability of coking coal are as under :-

- (i) Two new washeries at Madhuband (BCCL) and Kedla (CCL) in advanced stage of construction are likely to be commissioned during 1997-98.
- (ii) Increasing raw coking coal availability by reorganising existing mines and development of new mines.
- (iii) Modification of the existing coking coal washeries to improve the capacity utilisation as well as the quality of washed coking coal.
- (iv) Increasing raw coal feed to washeries by supplying low volatile medium coking coals of suitable quality.
- (v) Exploitation of coking coal by SAIL from captive mining block offered by CIL.

An Outlay of Rs. 134 crores as for BCCL and Rs. 245.13 crores for CCL has been provided in the Budget Estimate (BE) of 1997-98 for development of mines. Further a provision of Rs. 22 crores for BCCL and Rs. 22.50 crores for CCL has been made in 1997-98 for coking coal washeries.

As per Planning Commission, the imports of low ash coking coal for the year 1997-98 is likely to be of the order of 10.40 million tonnes.

Lok Adalats

6698. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT :
SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN :
SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA :

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) the present status of Lok Adalats and Legal aid Programmes in the country;

(b) the number of cases disposed of through Lok Adalats during the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the amount of compensation paid through Lok Adalats, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) The Lok Adalats and Legal Aid Programmes have been provided a statutory base with the enforcement of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987, as amended w.e.f. 9.11.1995.

(b) and (c) The information is being collected from the concerned State Legal Aid & Advice Boards and would be placed on the Table of the House when received.

Trade With Russia

6699. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether trade target set between India and Russia has been achieved during 1996-97;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the main reasons for decline in the trade;

(c) the details of products which have witnessed a fall in exports from India; and

(d) the steps being taken to boost the trade with Russia ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) to (d) During 1995-96, the target of trade turnover of Rs. 6000 crores was not only attained but surpassed with a total trade turnover of Rs. 6356 crores. During the first 11 months of 1996-97, Indo-Russian trade turnover has reached a level of Rs. 4487 crores which is 22.6% lower than the trade turnover during the corresponding period of previous year i.e. April-February, 1995-96. This decline has taken place mainly because of fall in exports of cashew and tea from India and fall in the imports of fertilizers, iron and steel and machinery from Russia. The fall in the export of cashew from India to Russia from Rs. 260.3 crores during April-February 1995-96 to Rs. 5.7 crores during April-February, 1996-97 has taken place because of effective measures taken by the Government to prevent switch of cashew which was earlier reported to have been largely diverted to third country destinations. The fall in tea

exports from Rs. 446.3 crores during April-February, 1995-96 to Rs. 179.1 crores during April-February 1996-97 can largely be attributed to the lower off take of tea by the Russian importers under the debt repayment mechanism caused by undue delay in rupee allocation for import of tea into Russia.

The Government has initiated effective measures for boosting Indo-Russian trade. These measures include encouraging consignment sales and opening of warehouses, broadbasing the basket of tradable goods, signing of Agreement on Cooperation and Mutual Assistance in Customs, impressing upon Russian Federation for early allocation of rupee funds, opening of Indian banks, participation in trade fairs and exhibitions, enhancing the trade in the area of pharmaceuticals reduction of value addition norms from 100% to 75% in respect of certain hi-tech items including personal computers for export to Russia under the debt repayment route etc.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : You please listen to me.

(Interruptions)

KUMARI UMA BHARATI (Khajuraho) : Mr. Speaker, many people have died because of hunger in Orissa . . . (Interruptions) Firstly, issue of Orissa to be taken up . . . (Interruptions)

Mr. Speaker, it is unfortunate that lakhs of people are starving and hundreds of people have died because of starvation . . . (Interruptions). We should not be so insensitive towards human beings . . . (Interruptions)

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : Mr. Speaker, hundreds and thousands of people are dying because of starvation. Large number of cattles have also died there . . . (Interruptions). The situation there is very horrible. The Government of Orissa is indifferent to such situation there . . . (Interruptions). I would like to request you to kindly permit me to raise the issue of Orissa . . . (Interruptions).

KUMARI UMA BHARATI : Mr. Speaker, lakhs of people are dying because of starvation there . . . (Interruptions).

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Mr. Speaker, drinking water is also not there. In such a situation large numbers of cattles are dying . . . (Interruptions) People are not getting